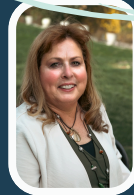


SERVING OUR COMMUNITY



Romans 10:11, "...Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame."

The Guilt and shame may have similar roots related to feelings of regret, but at the core, shame speaks straight to our sense of identity. Shame is a focus on self, guilt is a focus on behavior. In my 40 years of ministry here at the Christian Caring Center, I have heard this over and over again and it almost paralyzes people and spirals down. Every week I invite people to go to church with my husband and I. Many times I hear, "I have to get my life together and then I'll come. I don't have anything to wear. The church will fall down if I go in and so on. All these responses speak to their sense of shame and a feeling of powerlessness.

But the amazing fact is, Jesus is the answer! That This is why the Street Outreach and talking with people over lunch is so vital. Meeting people where they are while giving them physical food and spiritual food. Many times, my best sharing of the Gospel is in some parking lot. All of my people have a story, and we are called to share.

To share our personal testimony and the testimonies of the people we know. One of the most powerful testimonies is my friend Matthew. He was a young man, married and has two children, his own landscaping business and was a volunteer with the Christian Caring Center. Then he got addicted to prescription drugs and spiraled into street drugs. Eventually he became homeless and addicted. We ministered to him for two years on the street. Then one great day God touched Matthew's heart and he told me he was ready to go to treatment. We had another volunteer who had a similar story and went to Victory Outreach in Philadelphia. Both men are still free from drugs and shame and still mighty men of God and working in ministry! We can only continue to do this mighty outreach work with the help, support and prayers of all of you. It takes the kingdom of God to empower this work and we count it all joy to have you on our team.

Thank you so much for continuing to support the Christian Caring Center.

Madelyn Sutton



Christian Caring Center

www.christiancaringcenter.net



Holiday
Basket
Flyer

A Journey of Faith and Service: Honoring Mrs. Barbara J. Norton (Randy Holsten)

This month, we are proud to feature Mrs. Barbara J. Norton, a devoted volunteer of the Christian Caring Center for nearly 40 years. Mrs. Norton began her journey with St. Mark's Church in Pemberton, NJ, when the church was tasked with distributing cheese and butter from the government to the residents of Sunbury Village, a deeply impoverished area then and now. From the very beginning, Barbara exemplified Christian love and compassion, helping to ensure these essential supplies reached those who needed them most.

Barbara worked with other church members as they gathered food and clothing and distributed groceries on the property of St. Mark's—an effort that would soon give rise to the Christian Caring Center. Over the years, she has remained an active volunteer, serving on the Board for a time and for roughly 30 of those years, she has also served as the editor of the Christian Caring Center's newsletter.

When I asked Barbara about her fondest memory or most inspiring moment of service, she reflected on the joy of giving. For her, it is the look in people's eyes—the gratitude and relief they feel when they not only receive much-needed help but also a word of prayer and encouragement. Knowing that someone truly cares about them and wants to see them succeed as God intends for us all brings Barbara great joy. We talked at length about the power of prayer, which has always been central to Barbara's work with the Christian Caring Center. (cont)

From the opening of the doors each morning to the moments of service during interviews, prayer has been the foundation upon which every action is built. She spoke lovingly of her late husband, who worked alongside her until the Lord called him home. In her voice was a calm sense of resolve, a certainty that the work of the Christian Caring Center is a vital ministry. As Barbara so beautifully expressed, "It has been a joy to see how the Center has evolved from just providing food and clothing to meeting needs in so many other areas.

As Barbara reminisced about her own grandchildren's involvement, I could hear the joy resonate in her voice, a joy that comes from seeing a new generation carry forward the message of Christian caring and love. I've had the privilege of knowing Barbara for nearly 13 years. Our relationship began cordially but with some rocky moments. At the time, I was younger, new to the Christian Caring Center, and uncertain in my own faith and walk. Yet Barbara always had a kind word to share. Whenever she visited the thrift shop I managed, she brought a smile, a positive attitude, and a peaceful spirit. Reflecting on our journey together, I now feel certain that what helped me grow and mature were the prayers she offered for me, as she does for so many.

In conclusion, if there is one thing I've learned from Barbara, it is that the greatest gift one can give in Christian caring is the gift of oneself.

2 nd Annual SLEEP OUT

Was held on October 5, 2024 at the Medford Methodist Church, 2 Hartford Road, Medford. It was a wonderful event-PTL! Special THANK YOU to the 50 volunteers that came out to help from the Medford Methodist Church! The Christian Caring Center and Family Promise are teaming together to raise funds for specifically our Bridge of Hope Program and Family Promise's programs for the entire month of October so it's still not too late to donate. Both these programs reach homeless families who are not eligible for government assistance. These people are sleeping on the streets, in the woods, and in cars. We need to get them in shelter and fast as we approach winter. You can still support this by donating. Thank you again for supporting these children and parents.

Gideon's Army

We invite you to prayerfully consider joining our ranks as committed supporters, pledging \$35 per month to be a Gideon Army supporter of hope for those facing darkness. Together, we can be instruments of change, bringing light to the lives of the people we encounter in our midst. Thanks!



What we do



Men's Emergency Shelter

Jack Stelle Men's Emergency Shelter: We have 3 men in the shelter right now. QJ, RG, XT and RM. QJ is working at Dollar Tree, RM just started a new job and RG is working at the Christian Caring Center. XT was placed in housing in September--**PRAISE THE LORD!!!** All are looking for a room or affordable apartment to rent. We are asking for your prayers for all the men.

Holman House: Is temporarily closed to residents right now as we are going through renovations of adding a bathroom and bedroom for isolation room.

Marion House: We have a new family of a mom, a dad and one teenager-PTL!! Please pray for them as they look for permanent housing.

Volunteerism

As we are open 5 days per week, we greatly need volunteers. We only have 9 regular staff (4 full time and 5 part time staff) to run 11 programs. We have opportunities to fit your schedule: weekly, monthly, virtual, project oriented like holiday baskets, food pickups, food or basket shopping, events such as our Corn Hole or Sleep Out fundraisers, etc. Randy Holston is our Development Coordinator and he is eager to work with your group, church and volunteers to further our ministry and minister to our growing needs. If your workplace, group, or church are looking for opportunities to serve the community, Randy would love to talk to you. We can all come into agreement in prayer and serve. Drop us an email at christiancaringcenter@yahoo.com or call him at 609-793-3917.



Eden Village @ CCC



We are currently in Phase 1 for our licensing. PTL, we have raised \$22,000! We have also met with township officials and they love the project. Next step is to find suitable land of about 5 acres. Please keep us in your prayers.

Emergency Food

The Lord through the Christian Caring Center helped 433 families or 1,476 individuals with 26,568 meals in the month of September, 2024-PTL!!! **This month there was a 101 increase in households from August, 2024.**

Community Lunch/Rural Homeless Program

The Lord through the Christian Caring Center served 999 hot cooked lunches and continental breakfasts in the month of August, 2024. We also go out to streets/woods on Wednesday and Friday to deliver 40 lunches and outreach to the homeless, alcoholic, addicted or mentally challenged men and women in two area motels. The Red Carpet is shut down for repairs and all guests are being relocated currently. Please continue to pray for the people still out there who are homeless and struggling as well as the staff and volunteers.

Salvation Army Service Units & Grants

The Christian Caring Center serves as a volunteer service unit for the Salvation Army and 3 other grants. They helped households with 5 individuals with rent and 6 individuals with security deposits. Provided 22 nights of lodging to 16 individuals and utilities to 8 households with 16 individuals.



Bridge of Hope

We have our two new moms: one, who has 2 children, has found an apartment in Edgewater Park. Our second mom has 5 children and found a rental in Willingboro. Thank you for all your support and prayers.

The opportunity



Christian Caring Center



Volunteer

7 Most Wanted Volunteer Positions

1. Interviewers/to pray with the people receiving food.
2. Volunteers to work at Thanksgiving and Christmas Baskets.
3. Volunteers to work with homeless clients locating housing and jobs.
4. Volunteers for making gift baskets for auction at our fundraising events.
5. Volunteers to sort our clothing at the Center.
6. Volunteers to help organize Food Drives.
7. Volunteers to help organize toy drives.
8. Volunteers to help organize our donated jewelry for our fundraiser.



Sleep Out

On October 5, 2024 at the Medford Methodist Church, 2 Hartford Road, Medford from 7:30 pm to 7 am. Did you know that nationwide there are 1.2 million homeless children and in New Jersey there are more 34,700 under the age of 25. The Christian Caring Center and Family Promise are teaming together to raise funds specifically for our Bridge of Hope Program and Family Promise's programs. Both of these programs reach homeless families not eligible for government assistance and are sleeping on the streets, in the woods and in cars. We need to get them in shelter and fast as we approach winter and school time. You can support them by coming to this event, donating or sponsoring me, Randy or Sam as sleepers. Thank you again for supporting these children and parents. The Christian Caring Center also receives YOUGIVEGOODS.COM, you can purchase items and they will ship them to us.

Basket Outreach

Get ready for our upcoming Basket Outreach Events for the Holidays in November and December. It's all about blessing our community's children, families, seniors and homeless individuals! We're gearing up to provide a holiday meal filled with essentials and turkeys and ensuring every child has gift. Here's how you can get involved: 'Volunteer your time, 'Donate toys, board games or gift cards, 'Organize a food drive and/or donate your free turkey or ham that you are not using. 'Have your Church, Sunday School class, Bible study group, civic group, school or school club or business, etc. start a food or gift drive, write encouraging notes, Christmas cards, Gospel tracks to tuck into the food boxes. These personal touches can mean the world to a child or senior with a little extra support and encouragement. 'Donate a stuffed stocking for a senior citizen filled with candy, socks, hygiene items, crossword puzzles, Gospel tracks, devotionals, socks, etc.

If you're interested in participating or learning more, drop us an email at christiancaringcenter@yahoo.com. Your involvement can make a big difference in the lives of children and families in our community, and we'd be thrilled to have you on board!



Holiday Basket Flyer

Needed Items

FOOD PANTRY CLOTHING

- Jelly (we received Peanut butter from the F/B)
- Hamburgers/Hotdogs and buns
- Cereal, Breakfast bars, Nutra grain bars
- Juice, shelf milk, Water bottles, Gatorade, Juice Boxes
- Tuna fish
- Adult underwear & Hygiene items
- Sneakers
- Sweat Shirts/hoodies
- Jeans of all sizes, but especially 32-36, belts

SHELTERS

- Twin Sheets for our 3 shelters
- New comforters or Gently Used for our 3 shelters
- Gently used or new pots and pans
- Cleaning supplies (Dawn, bathroom cleaner, etc.)
- Gently used or new towels and wash cloths
- Zippered plastic sheet protectors for twin beds

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